

4K93-25

KODIAK MANAGEMENT AREA
COMMERCIAL FOOD/BAIT HERRING FISHERY
HARVEST STRATEGY
1993/94

By

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INTRODUCTION

The Kodiak Management Area (KMA) food/bait herring fishery has a long history dating back to 1912. Early harvests were primarily utilized for food and reduction products and harvests far surpassed current levels. Since, the early 1960's the harvest has been utilized primarily as bait for the crab and longline fisheries.

This fishery targets both Kodiak and Kamishak spawning stocks which are present in the KMA during the food/bait season (August 1, 1993 to February 28, 1994), Figure 1. Since the herring sac roe fisheries in the Kodiak and Cook Inlet areas are closed-to-entry fisheries, they are treated as primary fisheries. These fisheries are managed to provide for the majority of the harvest on the affected stocks to occur during the Kodiak and Kamishak sac roe fisheries. The food/bait fishery on these same stocks are subsequently treated as secondary fisheries. The associated harvest levels are directly related to the results of the sac roe fisheries of these stocks.

This harvest strategy will summarize the recent regulatory changes which affect the management of this fishery.

HARVEST STRATEGIES

During the Board of Fisheries meeting held in Anchorage in November of 1992 and in Kodiak in January of 1993, new harvest strategies were adopted which will direct the management of the KMA food/bait herring fishery.

KAMISHAK HERRING STOCKS

In the Cook Inlet Area 1993 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations, the Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan (5AAC 27.465.), outlines criteria for the management of the Kamishak Bay sac roe herring fishery and Shelikof Strait food/bait fishery as follows:

5 AAC 27.465 Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan.

- a) The purpose of the Kamishak Bay District herring management plan is to describe the management strategies used to set the guideline harvest levels for the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery, and for that portion of the Kamishak Bay stock allocated to the food and bait fishery conducted in the North Afognak Island, West Afognak Island, Uganik, North Mainland, and Mid-Mainland food and bait management units of the Kodiak management area, known as the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery, as described in (5 ACC 27.535(c)), Figure 2.
- b) The management year for the Kamishak Bay herring stock is July 1 through June 30.

- c) The allocation of the allowable harvest of the Kamishak Bay herring stock is 90 percent to the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery, and 10 percent to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery.
- d) The guideline harvest level for the fall Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery and the following spring Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery will be based on the projected biomass as determined by the most recent aerial surveys, age class composition, historical mortality, and recruitment trends.
- e) The maximum exploitation rate for the Kamishak Bay herring stock is 20 percent of the spawning biomass, and will be determined as follows:
 - 1) if the spawning biomass is 30,000 short tons or more, the maximum exploitation rate is 20 percent, with 18 percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and 2 percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery;
 - 2) if the spawning biomass is 20,000 short tons or more, but less than 30,000 short tons, the maximum exploitation rate is 15 percent, with 13.5 percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and 1.5 percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery;
 - 3) if the spawning biomass is 8,000 short tons or more, but less than 20,000 short tons, the allowable exploitation rate is 10 percent, with 9 percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and 1 percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery;
 - 4) if the spawning biomass is less than 8,000 short tons, the Kamishak Bay sac roe fishery and the Shelikof food and bait fishery north of the latitude of Miner's Point will be closed, Figure 3.
- f) The management strategy for the Kamishak sac roe fishery is to target the fishery on older age classes, and to limit exploitation rates on younger age class herring (age five and younger) to 10 percent or less.
- g) The allocation of Kamishak Bay herring stocks to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery will be based on the spawning biomass of age five and older herring and not on the biomass of juveniles. The quantity of herring stocks aged four years and younger caught in the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery will be adjusted to approximate the biomass of a similar number of age five herring.

KODIAK FOOD/BAIT HARVEST STRATEGY

The specific management plan which guides the KMA food/bait fishery is described in the Kodiak Area 1993 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulation 5 AAC 27.535. The allocation of Kamishak Bay herring stocks which overwinter in the Shelikof Strait in the KMA food/bait fishery is described in the Kamishak Bay District Herring Management Plan (5 AAC 27.465).

The 1993/94 Kodiak Harvest Strategy combines the Kamishak food/bait guideline harvest level (GHL) with the Kodiak GHL for the West Afognak, Uganik, and Uyak food/bait management units. Kodiak herring stocks have dramatically increased over the past three years. Intermixing of Kodiak and Kamishak stocks occurs during the winter months on the west side of the Kodiak Island group. Actual inseason management is guided by the following regulation:

5 AAC 27.535. HARVEST STRATEGIES.

- a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the department shall manage the herring food/bait fishery so that the food/bait harvest does not exceed 10 percent of the actual Kodiak herring sac roe harvest in the previous season.
- b) The department shall manage the herring food/bait fishery in waters set out in the Afognak District (5 AAC 27.505 (a)(1)-(5)), in the Uganik District (5 AAC 27.505(b)) and Uyak District (5 AAC 27.505(c)) so that the total harvest does not exceed the sum of (1) the allowable harvest of the Kamishak spawning stocks that overwinter in the Shelikof Strait as determined under the Kamishak Bay District herring management plan (5 AAC 27.465) and (2) GHL set for the food/bait fishery in these waters as provided in (c), Figure 2.
- c) The GHL for the herring food/bait fishery in waters set out in the Afognak District (5 AAC 27.505 (a)(1)-(5)), Uganik District (5 AAC 27.505(b)) and Uyak District (5 AAC 27.505(c)) shall not exceed 10 percent of the herring sac roe harvest of the previous season in these waters.
- d) When the Kamishak Bay herring spawning biomass is below 8,000 short tons the department shall close the food/bait fishery in Shelikof Strait north of the latitude of Miner's Point, Figure 3.

MANAGEMENT UNITS

To accommodate this harvest strategy, thirteen (13) food/bait management units have been established to include geographical groupings of sac roe stocks and adjacent offshore areas.

Each food/bait management unit consists of several sac roe herring fishery management units, Figures 4-13. Each food/bait management unit GHL is based upon 10% of the total sac roe herring harvest which occurred within the food/bait management unit boundaries.

GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVELS

The 1993-1994 food/bait G.H.L. for the KMA will be affected by the following management considerations:

Kodiak Spawning Stocks

For Kodiak spawning stocks, as described in 5 AAC 27.535(a) Harvest Strategies, the department shall limit the food/bait harvest to 10% of the previous spring's sac roe harvest on a stock by stock basis, (Table 1). Harvest levels on Kodiak stocks in the adjacent offshore areas will reflect the combined food/bait G.H.L. for the sac roe stocks included within that management unit. Partial closure of food/bait management units may occur.

A maximum of 489 tons properly distributed throughout the KMA will be the food/bait harvest on Kodiak spawning stocks.

Kamishak Spawning Stocks

The 1994 Kamishak spawning biomass is forecasted at 25,000 tons. As described in 5 AAC 27.535(e)(2) if the spawning biomass is 20,000 short tons or more, but less than 30,000 short tons, the maximum exploitation rate is 15 percent, with 13.5 percent allocated to the Kamishak sac roe fishery and 1.5 percent allocated to the Shelikof Strait food and bait fishery.

The GHL for the Kamishak Bay herring stocks for the Shelikof Strait Bait Fishery is 380 tons.

As discussed in 5 AAC 27.535(b) Harvest Strategies, the GHL's for the Kodiak food/bait management units (F/B 1, F/B 4, and F/B 5) will be combined with the Kamishak Bay herring allocation.

The Kamishak Bay GHL of 380 tons plus the Kodiak stock combined GHL's for food/bait units F/B 1, F/B 4, and F/B 5 of 272 tons, gives a combined GHL of 652 tons. When the 652 ton GHL is reached or approached, the following management units will be closed collectively to further food/bait herring fishing, F/B 1, F/B 2, F/B 4, F/B 5, F/B 11, and F/B 12, Figure 2. Herring harvested in food and bait management units F/B 2, F/B 11, and F/B 12 are attributed to the Kamishak Bay GHL.

REGULATIONS

Season Opening Times and Dates

From August 1, 1993 through February 28, 1994.

Fishing Periods

Open to continuous fishing from 12:01 A.M. 8/1/93 to 12:00 P.M. 2/28/94 unless superseded by emergency order closures.

Closed Waters

See CLOSED WATERS section of the 1993 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations (page 38), 5 AAC 27.530.

Consult 1993 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations, (5 AAC 18.350), for a listing of closed waters for the Kodiak food/bait herring fishery for the period August 1 through October 31, pages 59-63.

Permits Required

Interim Use Permit is required before a registration permit will be issued. Interim use permits are issued from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission in Juneau for the following gear types:

- H01K Purse Seine
- H34K Gillnet
- H07K Trawl

Registration Permit - Kodiak ADF&G Office

- All fishers and processor/buyers are required to register with the Kodiak ADF&G office prior to fishing.

Registration Permit will be used for:

- Monitoring fleet size by gear type.
- Clarifying catch reporting procedures, closed water areas, and in-season emergency order announcement procedures.

Legal Gear Restrictions

New gear restrictions for purse seine gear were adopted by the State Board of Fisheries for the 1993/94 food/bait season. No changes were implemented for trawl or gillnet gear.

- 01 - Purse Seines
 - Maximum length: (NEW regulation) 150 fathoms
 - Maximum depth: (NEW regulation) 1,625 meshes. For Area K there are no web size restrictions.
 - Lead length unrestricted.
- 34 - Gillnets
 - Maximum length: 150 fathoms; mesh size: 2-1/8" - 2-1/2".
- 07 - Trawl
 - No restrictions

Consult the 1993 Commercial Herring Fishing Regulations for a complete listing of all regulations.

EMERGENCY ORDER (E.O.) ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is important for Kodiak food/bait fishers to be aware of management unit closures. This can be accomplished by 1) personal contact with the Kodiak ADF&G management staff via office visits or by calling 486-1830, 2) contacting Kodiak ADF&G management staff on SSB radio frequency 3.230 mhz, 3) contacting local herring processors, 4) calling the Kodiak ADF&G recorded message phone at 486-4559, 5) listening for an emergency order update which will be broadcasted at 8:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. after the marine weather on SSB radio frequency 4.125 mhz or 6) by picking up the most recent emergency order from the holder mounted outside the ADF&G office.

REPORTS REQUIRED BY FISHERMEN

All landings of herring for food/bait purposes must be verbally reported to ADF&G before the product is totally unloaded at the dock.

The following phone numbers will reach Fish and Game personnel 24 hours per day:

- ADF&G Office: Monday through Friday
8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. - 486-1807 or 486-1830.
- After Office Hours:
4:30 P.M. to 8:00 A.M.
 - 486-6007 (Dave Prokopowich)
 - 486-3031 (Dennis Gretsches)
 - 486-6475 (Kevin Brennan)
 - 486-4831 (Pete Probasco)

All fish tickets must be completed and sent to the Kodiak Fish and Game office within a week of the landing.

Send to: Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
ATTN: Dave Prokopowich
211 Mission Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

FISHER COOPERATION

Department personnel will conduct confidential skipper interviews to obtain biomass estimates, average school size and herring distribution data. Additionally, fisher cooperation will be appreciated when Department personnel request herring samples. These samples will be used to determine age composition, and length and weight characteristics of the commercial harvest.

Table 1. Kodiak Management Area 1993/94 herring food/bait harvest strategy. A listing of guideline harvest levels by food/bait management units^a. (G.H.L. harvest numbers represent short tons).

| Food/Bait Mgmt. Units | Sac Roe Management Units | | 1993 Sac Roe | | 1993/94 Food/Bait |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|
| | No. | Name | G.H.L. | Harvest | G.H.L. |
| F/B 1 | AO10 | Raspberry | 165 | 445 | 44 |
| West Afognak Unit | AO20 | Malina | 90 | 312 | 31 |
| | AO31 | Paramanof | 100 | 431 | 43 |
| | AO32 | Foul Bay | 60 | 158 | 16 |
| | AO40 | Blue Fox/Devil's Inlet | 30 | 240 | 24 |
| | AO50 | Offshore Afognak | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 445 | 1586 | 158 |
| F/B 2 | AO60 | Shuyak | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| North Afognak Unit | AO70 | Perenosa | 15 | 10 | 1 |
| | AO71 | Delphin | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | AO72 | Seal Bay | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | AO80 | Tonki | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 70 | 10 | 1 |
| F/B 3 | AO90 | Izhut | 15 | 5 | 1 |
| East Afognak Unit | AO91 | Kitoi | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | AO92 | McDonalds | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | A100 | Danger | 25 | 30 | 3 |
| | A101 | Litnik | 10 | 1 | 0 |
| | A102 | Inshore Marmot | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 80 | 36 | 4 |
| F/B 4 | UG10 | Kupreanof | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Uganik Unit | UG20 | Viekoda | 80 | 95 | 9 |
| | UG21 | Terror | 90 | 214 | 21 |
| | UG30 | Village Islands | 135 | 484 | 48 |
| | UG31 | W. Uganik Passage | 75 | 73 | 7 |
| | UG32 | N.E. Arm Uganik | 110 | 3 | 0 |
| | UG33 | E. Arm Uganik | 60 | 113 | 11 |
| | UG34 | S. Arm Uganik | 60 | 92 | 9 |
| | UG40 | Offshore Uganik | Exploration | 0 | 0 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 620 | 1,074 | 105 |
| F/B 5 | UY10 | Offshore Uyak | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| Uyak Unit | UY20 | Harvester | 10 | 0 | 1 |
| | UY30 | Inner Uyak | 135 | 34 | 3 |
| | UY32 | Browns Lagoon | 30 | 9 | 1 |
| | UY31 | Larsen Bay | 10 | 16 | 2 |
| | UY40 | Zachar | 75 | 3 | 0 |
| | UY50 | Spiridon | 90 | 21 | 2 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 350 | 83 | 9 |

-Continued-

Table 1. (page 2 of 3)

| Food/Bait Mgmt. Units | Sac Roe Management Units | | 1993 Sac Roe | | 1993/94 Food/Bait |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|
| | No. | Name | G.H.L. | Harvest | G.H.L. |
| F/B 6 Sturgeon/ Halibut Unit | SH01 | Sturgeon/Halibut | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| F/B 7 Alitak Unit | AL10 | Outer Alitak | Exploration | 28 | 3 |
| | AL20 | Inner Alitak | 75 | 71 | 7 |
| | AL21 | Deadman | 230 | 379 | 38 |
| | AL30 | Sulua | 145 | 203 | 20 |
| | AL40 | Lower Olga/N. Upper Olga | 30 | 27 | 3 |
| | AL50 | Upper Olga/Moser | 110 | 50 | 5 |
| | AL60 | Geese/Twoheaded | Exploration | 15 | 1 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 590 | 773 | 77 |
| F/B 8 Eastside Unit | GO10 | Kalugnak | 20 | 13 | 1 |
| | GO20 | W. Sitkalidak | 275 | 286 | 29 |
| | GO21 | Barling | 40 | 39 | 4 |
| | GO22 | E. Sitkinak | 180 | 293 | 29 |
| | GO23 | Tanginak | 15 | 19 | 2 |
| | GO30 | Outer Sitkalidak | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| | GO40 | Outer Kiliuda | Exploration | 46 | 5 |
| | GO41 | Inner Kiliuda | 60 | 127 | 13 |
| | GO42 | Shearwater | 75 | 91 | 9 |
| | GO50 | Outer Ugak | Exploration | 52 | 5 |
| | GO50 | Pasagshak | 30 | 28 | 3 |
| | GO51 | Inner Ugak | 95 | 130 | 13 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 790 | 1112 | 113 |
| F/B 9 Chiniak Unit | GO60 | Womens Bay | 110 | 30 | 3 |
| | G100 | Kalsin Bay | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| | G101 | Middle Bay | 20 | 16 | 2 |
| | G102 | Inshore Chiniak | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 155 | 46 | 5 |
| F/B 10 North Kodiak Unit | GO70 | Monashka/Mill Bay | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| | GO80 | Anton Larsen | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | GO81 | Sheratin | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | GO90 | Kizhuyak | 100 | 67 | 7 |
| | G103 | Spruce Island | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 130 | 67 | 7 |
| F/B 11 No. Mainland Unit | MO10 | North Mainland | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| | MO20 | Inner Kukak | 65 | 15 | 1 |
| | MO30 | Outer Kukak | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| | MO40 | Inner/Outer Missak | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 65 | 15 | 1 |

-Continued-

Table 1. (page 3 of 3)

| Food/Bait Mgmt. Units | Sac Roe Management Units | | 1993 Sac Roe | | 1993/94 Food/Bait |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|
| | No. | Name | G.H.L. | Harvest | G.H.L. |
| F/B 12 | MO50 | Inner Katmai | 65 | 24 | 2 |
| | MO60 | Outer Katmai | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| Mid-Mainland | MO70 | Alinchak | 40 | 63 | 6 |
| Unit | MO80 | Puale Bay | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| | MO90 | Portage Bay | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 105 | 87 | 8 |
| F/B 13 | M100 | Outer Portage | - | 0 | Exploration |
| So. Mainland | M110 | Wide Bay | 125 | 15 | 1 |
| Unit | M120 | Lower Shelikof | Exploration | 0 | Exploration |
| UNIT TOTALS: | | | 125 | 15 | 1 |
| GRAND TOTALS: | | | 3,525 | 4,916 | 489 |

^a The Kodiak Area total G.H.L. for food/bait fishery, as indicated in the 1993 Herring Regulations, is managed so that the food/bait harvest does not exceed 10% of the actual herring sac-roë harvest in the previous season. This table reflects the available food/bait harvest for each sac-roë stock or food/bait unit, whichever applies. (See Harvest Strategy.) G-H-L and harvest figures are rounded to the nearest ton.

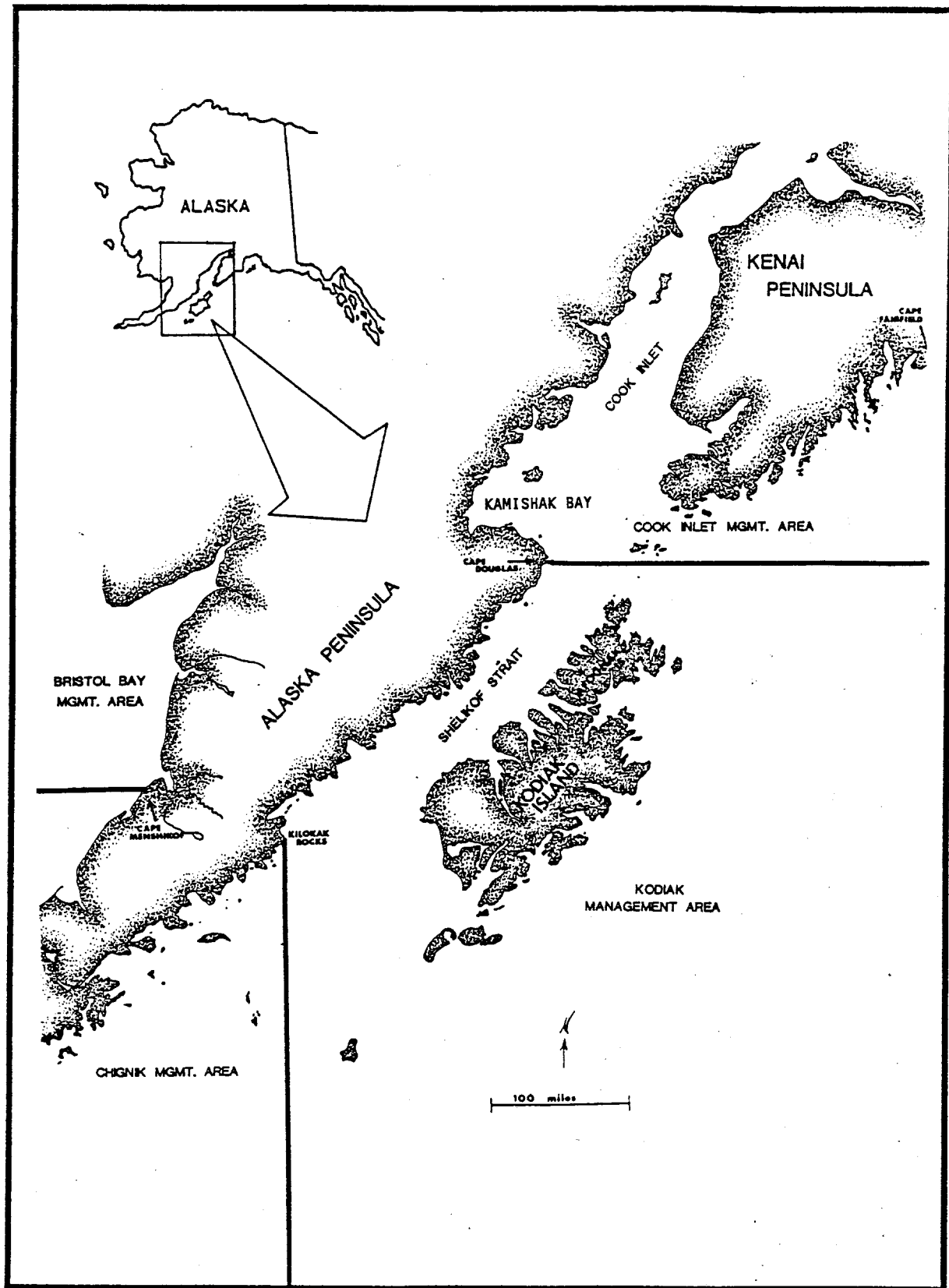


Figure 1. Map of southcentral Alaska showing the Kodiak and Cook Inlet herring management areas, along with the location of Kamishak Bay and Shelikof Strait.

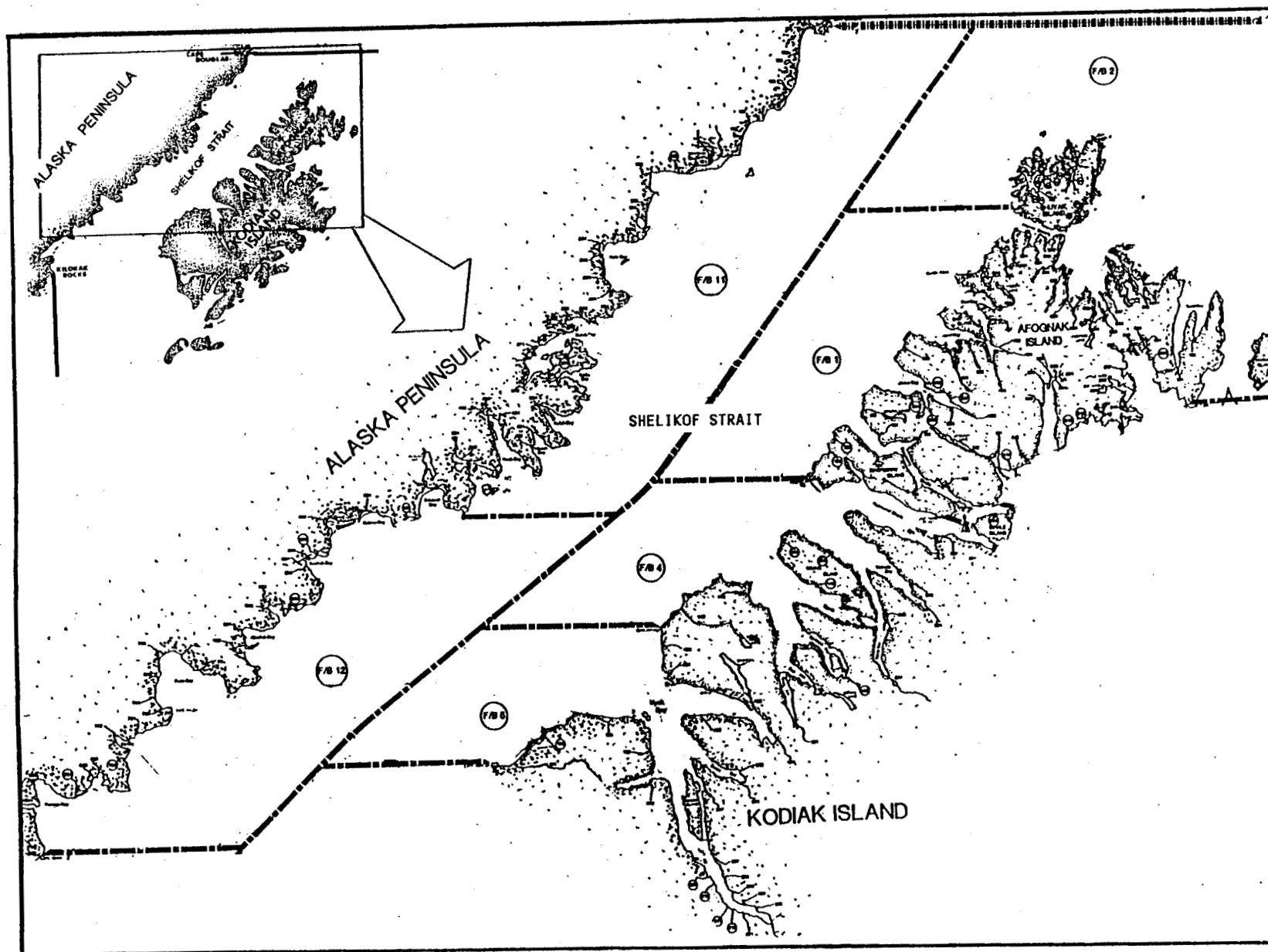


Figure 2. Kodiak food and bait herring management units, (FB1, FB2, FB4, FB5, FB11, and FB12) which are affected by the harvest of Kamishak Bay herring.

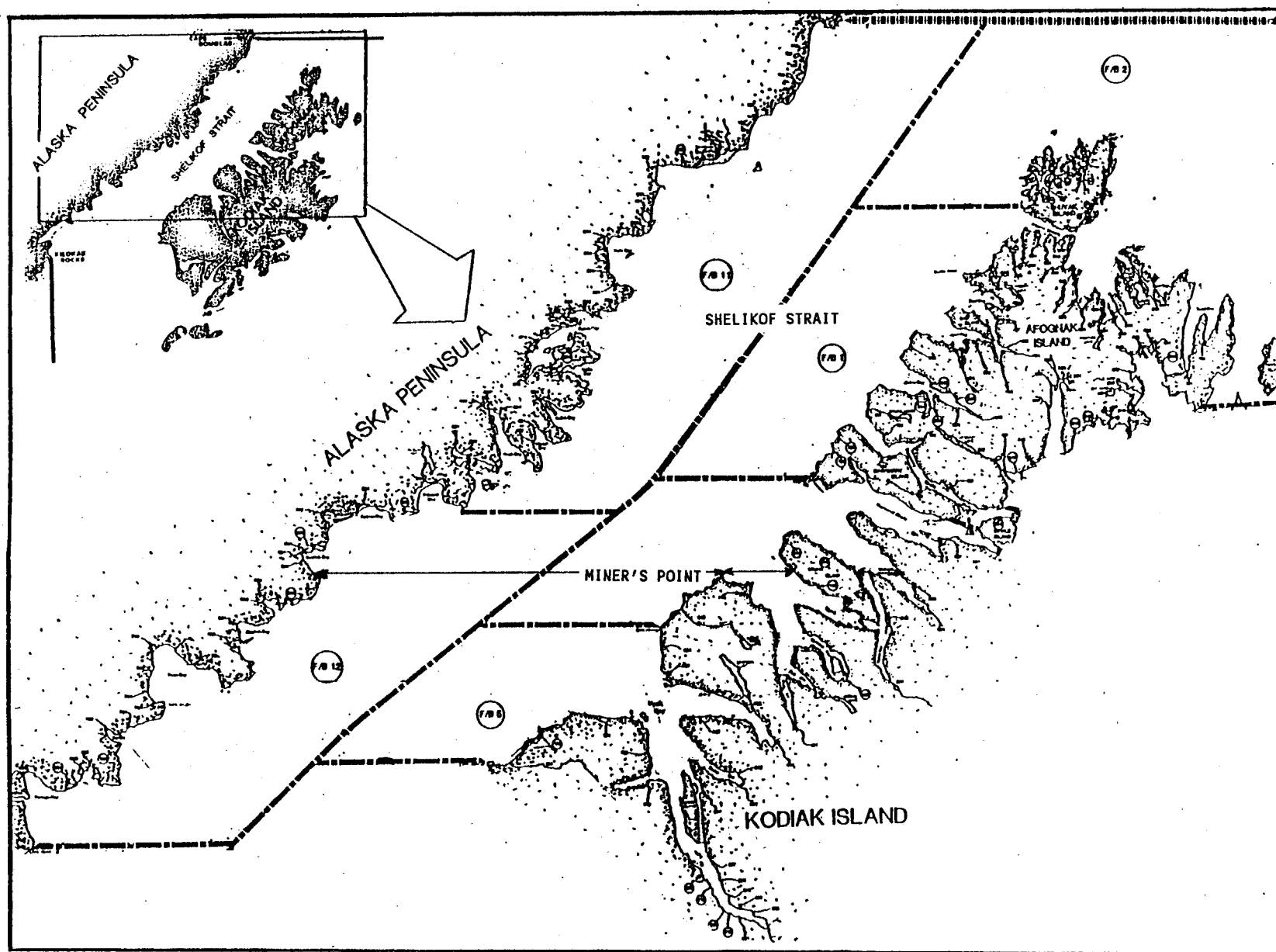


Figure 3. Kodiak food and bait management area north of the latitude of Miner's Point which would be closed if the Kamishak Bay herring biomass is below 8,000 tons.

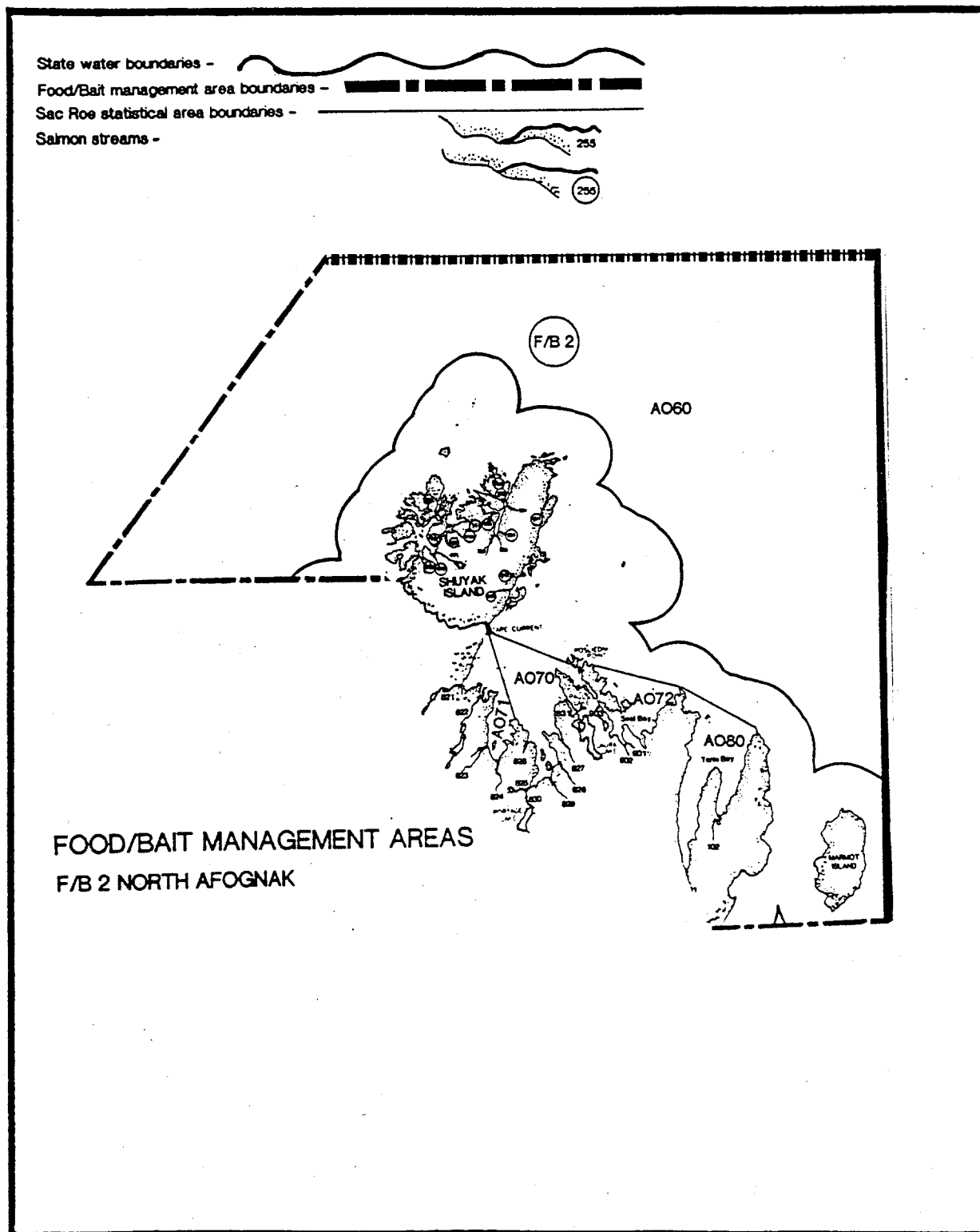


Figure 5. Map #1, food and bait herring management unit 2, Kodiak Management Area.

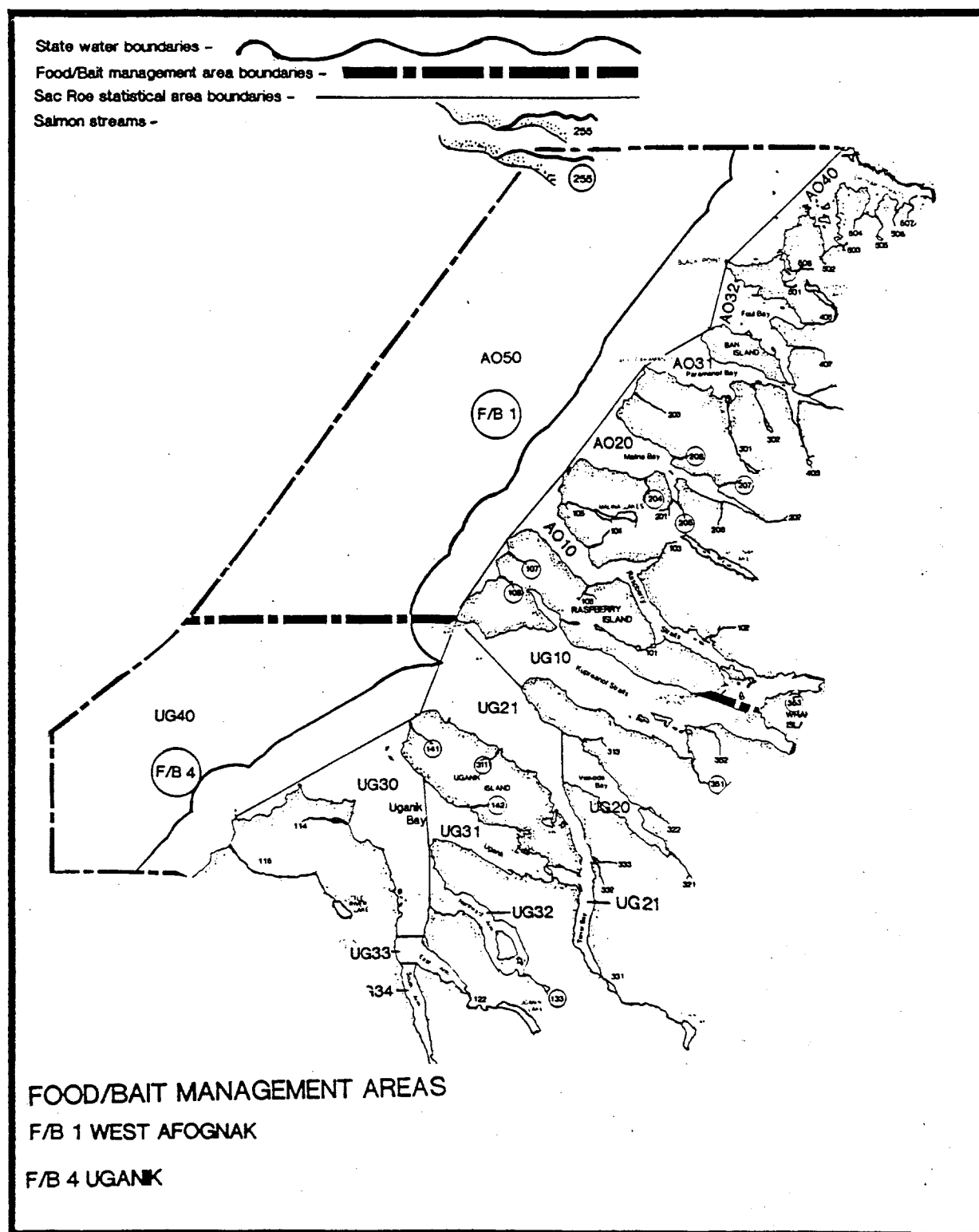


Figure 6. Map #2, food and bait herring management units 1 and 4, Kodiak Management Area.

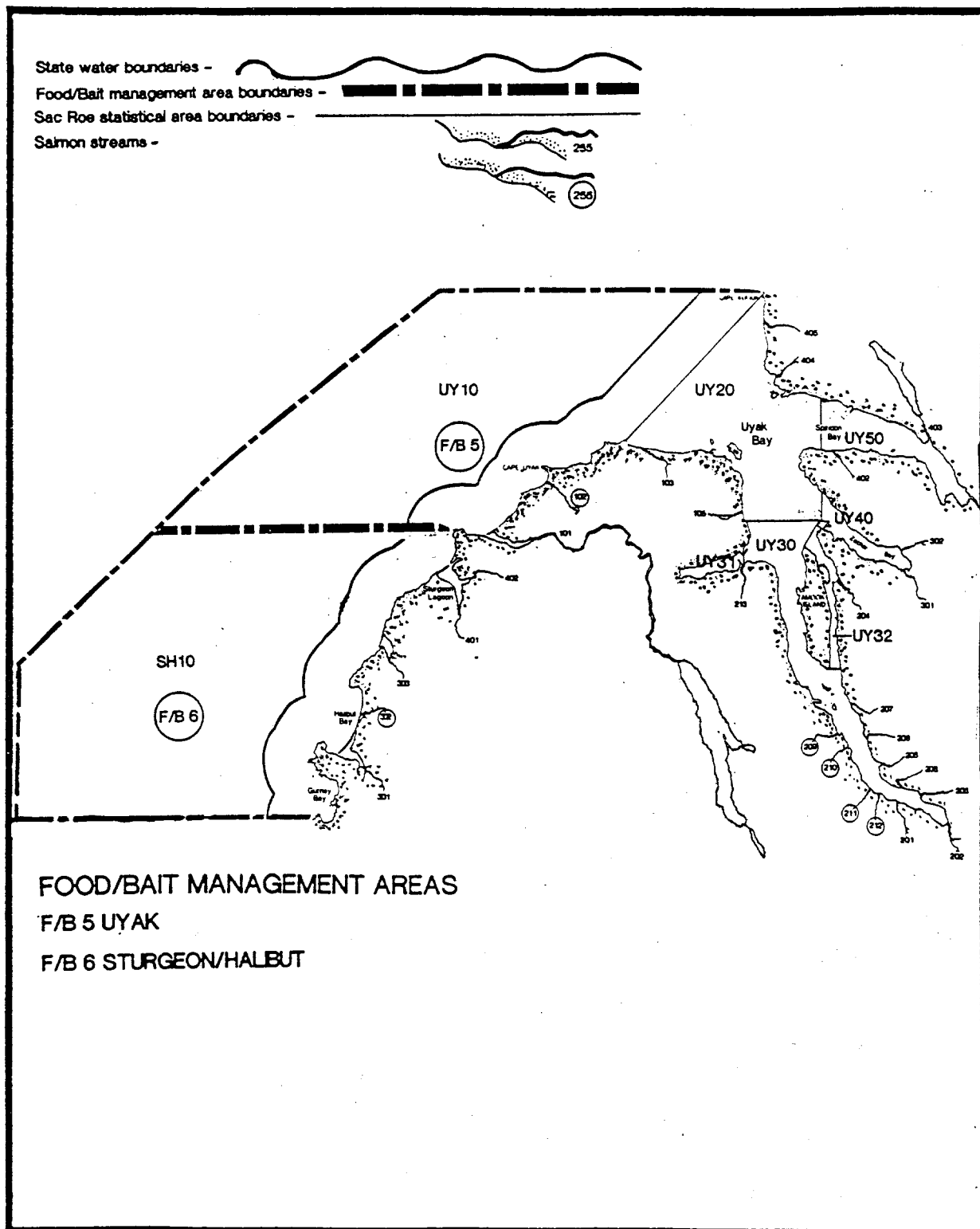


Figure 7. Map #3, food and bait herring management units 5 and 6, Kodiak Management Area.

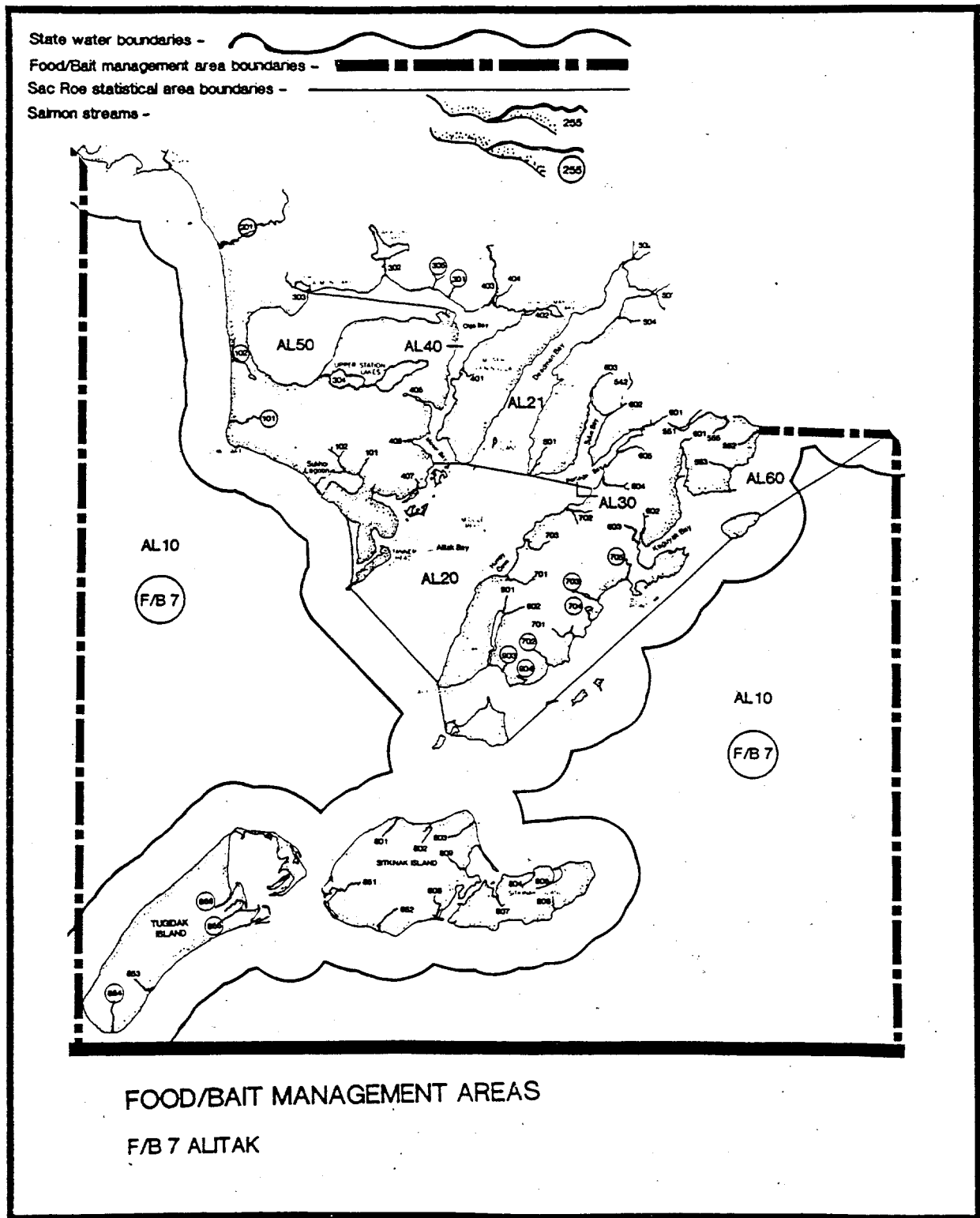


Figure 8. Map #4, food and bait herring management unit 7, Kodiak Management Area.

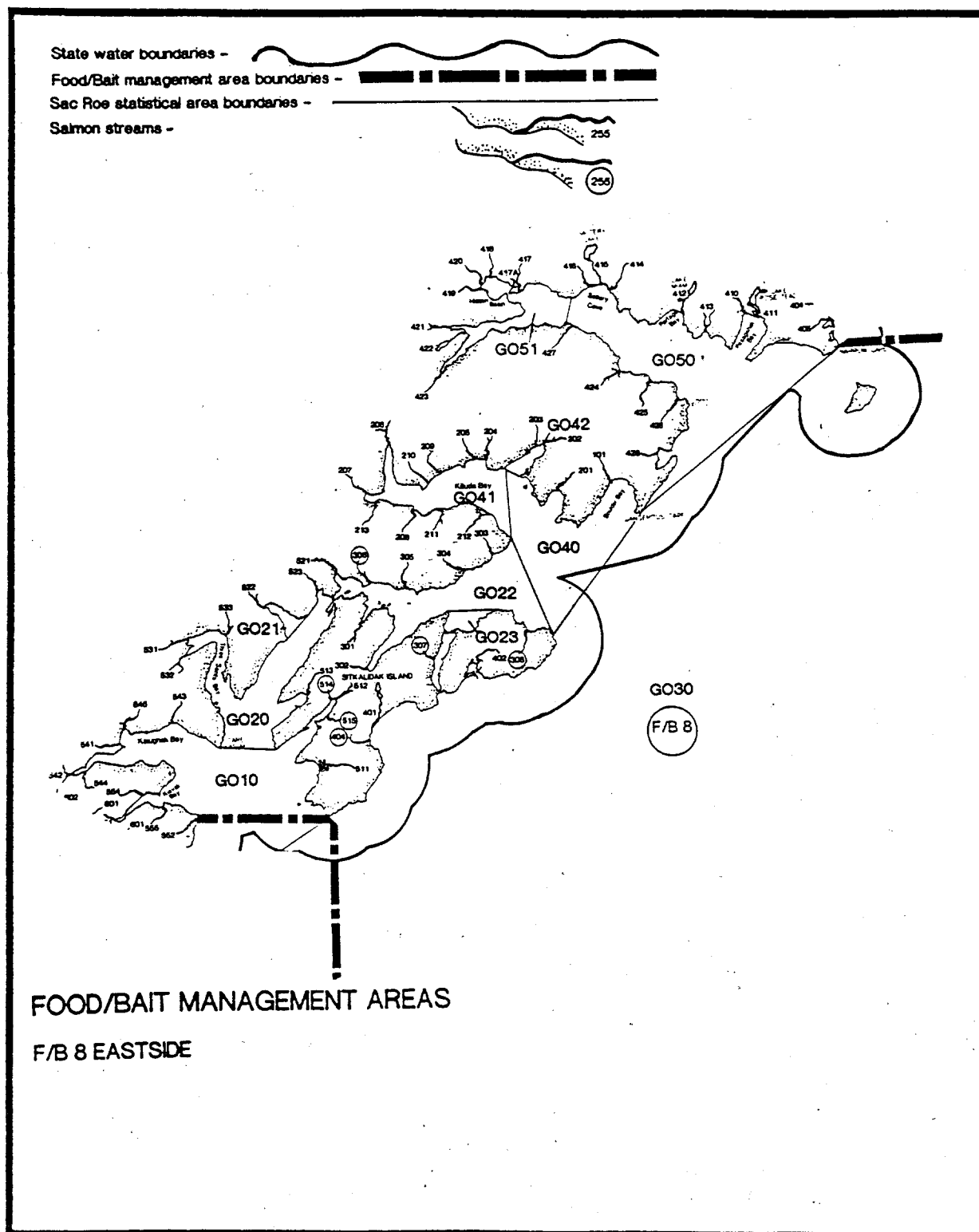


Figure 9. Map #5, food and bait herring management unit 8, Kodiak Management Area.

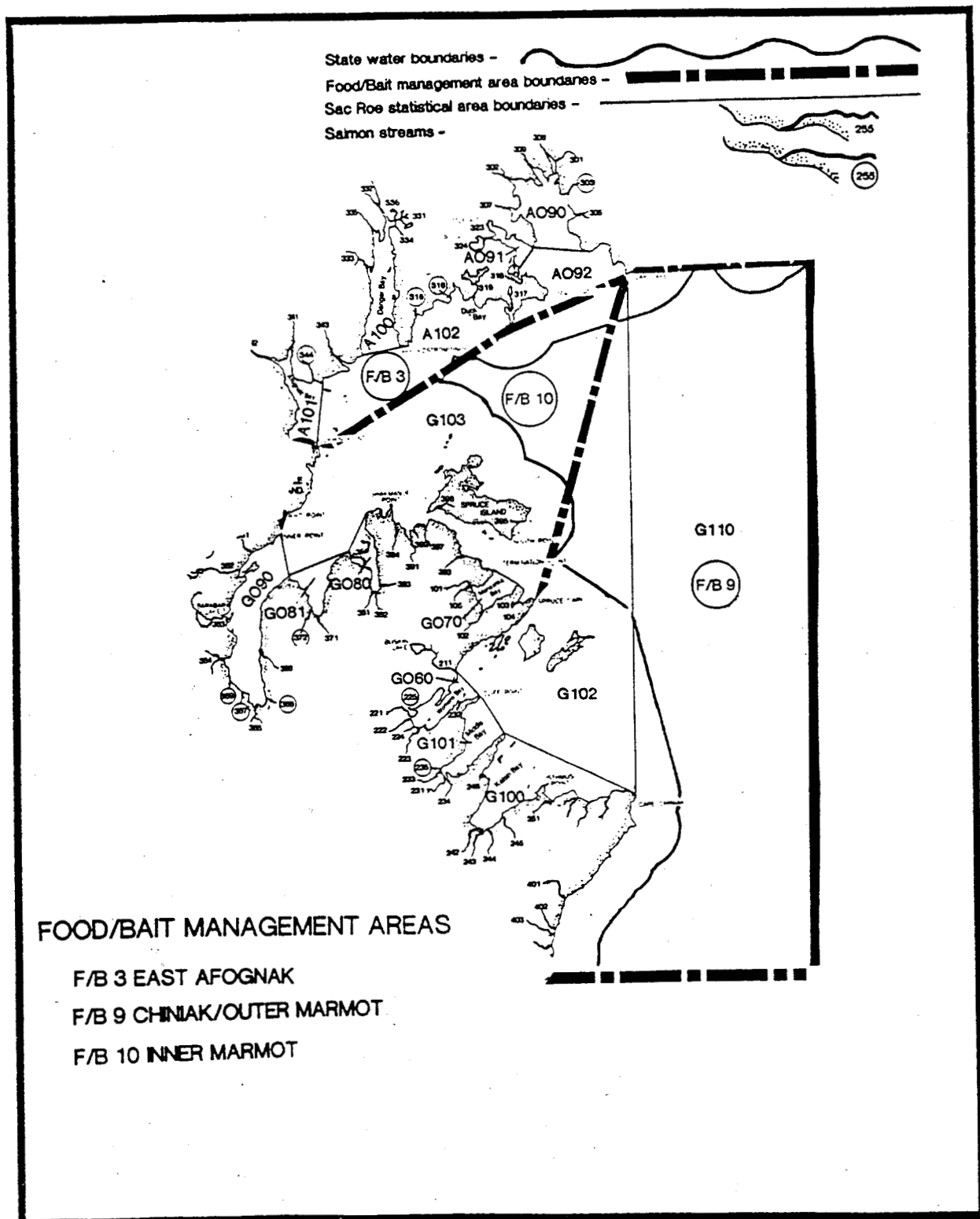


Figure 10. Map #6, food and bait herring management units 3, 9, and 10, Kodiak Management Area.

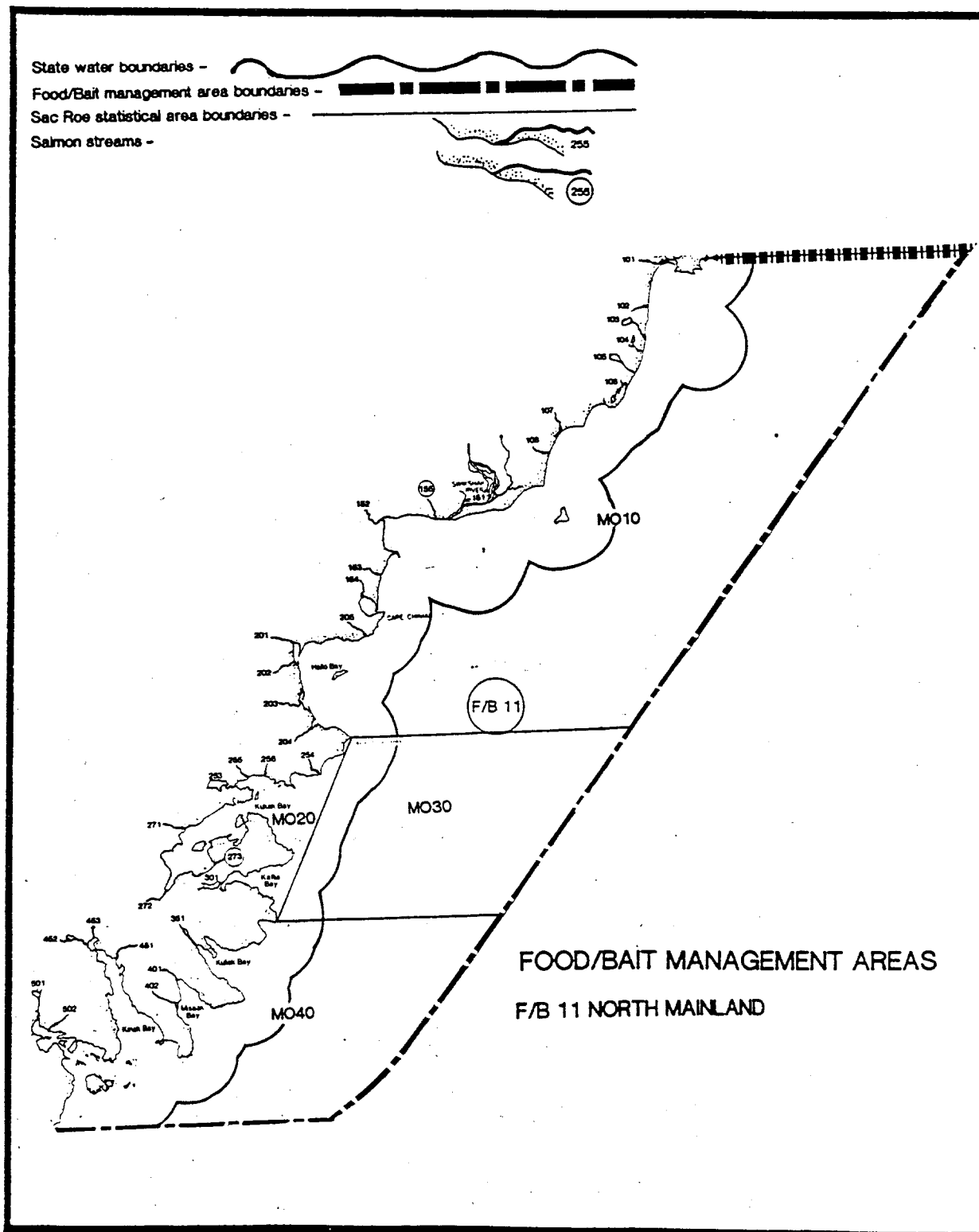


Figure 11. Map #7, food and bait herring management unit 11, North Mainland, Kodiak Management Area.

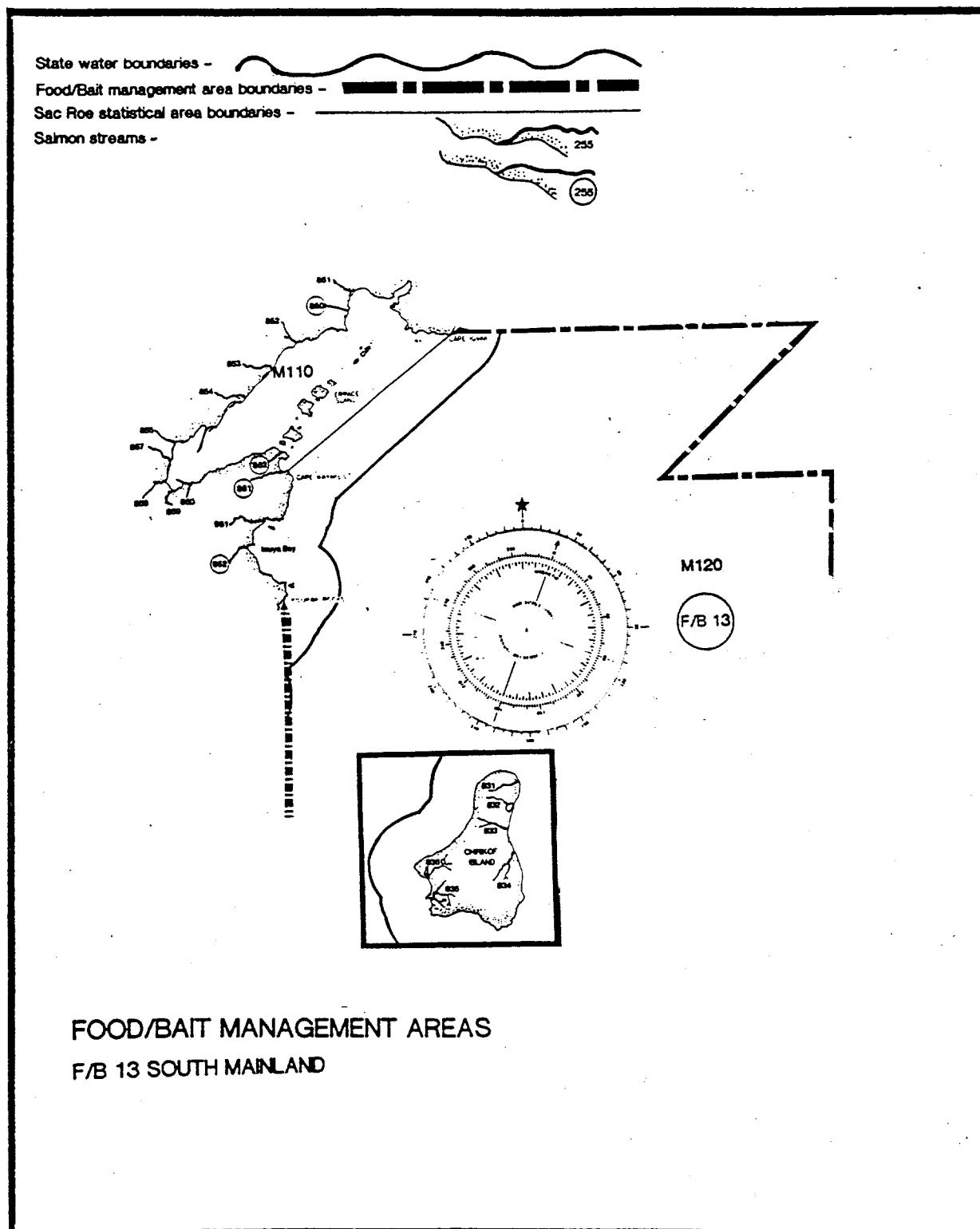


Figure 13. Map #9, food and bait herring management unit 13, South Mainland, Kodiak Management Area.

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